

## SECTION 8

### HEALTH AND SAFETY

#### SEISMIC AND GEOLOGICAL HAZARDS

**Goal 8.A:** To minimize the loss of life, injury, and property damage due to seismic and geological hazards.

##### Policies

- 8.A.1. The County shall require the preparation of a soils engineering and geologic-seismic analysis prior to permitting development in areas prone to geological or seismic hazards (i.e., groundshaking, landslides, liquefaction, critically expansive soils, avalanche).
- 8.A.2. The County shall require submission of a preliminary soils report, prepared by a registered civil engineer and based upon adequate test borings, for every major subdivision and for each individual lot where critically expansive soils have been identified or are expected to exist.
- 8.A.3. The County shall prohibit the placement of habitable structures or individual sewage disposal systems on or in critically expansive soils unless suitable mitigation measures are incorporated to prevent the potential risks of these conditions.
- 8.A.4. The County shall ensure that areas of slope instability are adequately investigated and that any development in these areas incorporates appropriate design provisions to prevent landsliding.
- 8.A.5. In landslide hazard areas, the County shall prohibit avoidable alteration of land in a manner that could increase the hazard, including concentration of water through drainage, irrigation, or septic systems; removal of vegetative cover; and steepening of slopes and undercutting the bases of slopes.
- 8.A.6. The County shall require the preparation of drainage plans for development in hillside areas that direct runoff and drainage away from unstable slopes.
- 8.A.7. In areas subject to severe groundshaking, the County shall require that new structures intended for human occupancy be designed and constructed to minimize risk to the safety of occupants.
- 8.A.8. County shall continue to support scientific geologic investigations which refine, enlarge, and improve the body of knowledge on active fault zones, unstable areas, severe groundshaking, avalanche potential, and other hazardous conditions in Placer County.
- 8.A.9. The County shall require that the location and/or design of any new buildings, facilities, or other development in areas subject to earthquake activity minimize exposure to danger from fault rupture or creep.
- 8.A.10. The County shall require that new structures permitted in areas of high liquefaction potential be sited, designed, and constructed to minimize the dangers from damage due to earthquake-induced liquefaction.

- 8.A.11. The County shall limit development in areas of steep or unstable slopes to minimize hazards caused by landslides or liquefaction.
- 8.A.12. The County shall not issue permits for new development in potential avalanche hazard areas (PAHA) as designated in the Placer County Avalanche Management Ordinance unless project proponents can demonstrate that such development will be safe under anticipated snow loads and conditions of an avalanche.

### Implementation Programs

- 8.1. The County shall continue to enforce provisions of the Uniform Building Code which address seismic concerns, including masonry building design requirements.

Responsibility: Building Department  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

- 8.2. The County shall assess the need for an ordinance requiring evaluation of unreinforced masonry structures and the repair or replacement of identified hazardous structures.

Responsibility: Building Department  
Time Frame: FY 94-95  
Funding: General Fund

### FLOOD HAZARDS

**Goal 8.B:** To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, damage to property, and economic and social dislocations resulting from flood hazards.

#### Policies

- 8.B.1. The County shall promote flood control measures that maintain natural conditions within the 100-year floodplain of rivers and streams.
- 8.B.2. The County shall continue to participate in the Federal Flood Insurance Program.
- 8.B.3. The County shall require flood-proofing of structures in areas subject to flooding.
- 8.B.4. The County shall require that the design and location of dams and levees be in accordance with all applicable design standards and specifications and accepted state-of-the-art design and construction practices.
- 8.B.5. The County shall coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions to mitigate the impacts of new development in Placer County that could increase or potentially affect runoff onto parcels downstream in a neighboring jurisdiction.
- 8.B.6. The County shall prohibit the construction of facilities essential for emergencies and large public assembly in the 100-year floodplain, unless the structure and access to the structure are free from flood inundation.

- 8.B.7. The County shall require flood control structures, facilities, and improvements to be designed to conserve resources, incorporate and preserve scenic values, and to incorporate opportunities for recreation, where appropriate.
- 8.B.8. The County shall require that flood management programs avoid alteration of waterways and adjacent areas, whenever possible.

[See also policies/programs under Goal 4.E.; Stormwater Drainage; and Goal 4.F., Flood Protection.]

### **Implementation Programs**

- 8.3. The County shall continue to maintain flood hazard maps and other relevant floodplain data and shall revise or update this information as new information becomes available.

Responsibility: Department of Public Works  
Flood Control District  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

- 8.4. The County will annually review and revise its Dam Failure Evacuation Plan and applicable portions of the County Emergency Operations Plan. The Office of Emergency Services will continue to provide public information on dam failure preparedness and response.

Responsibility: County Executive  
Office of Emergency Services  
Time Frame: Annually  
Funding: General Fund

- 8.5. The County shall continue to implement and enforce its Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

Responsibility: Department of Public Works  
Flood Control District  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

### **FIRE HAZARDS**

- Goal 8.C:** To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, and damage to property and watershed resources resulting from unwanted fires.

#### **Policies**

- 8.C.1. The County shall ensure that development in high-fire-hazard areas is designed and constructed in a manner that minimizes the risk from fire hazards and meets all applicable state and County fire standards.
- 8.C.2. The County shall require that discretionary permits for new development in fire hazard areas be conditioned to include requirements for fire-resistant vegetation, cleared fire breaks, or a long-term comprehensive fuel management program. Fire hazard reduction measures shall be incorporated into the design of development projects in fire hazard areas.

- 8.C.3. The County shall require that new development meets state, County, and local fire district standards for fire protection.
- 8.C.4. The County shall refer development proposals in the unincorporated County to the appropriate local fire agencies for review for compliance with fire safety standards. If dual responsibility exists, then both agencies shall review and comment relative to their area of responsibility. If standards are different or conflicting, the more stringent standards shall be applied.
- 8.C.5. The County shall ensure that existing and new buildings of public assembly incorporate adequate fire protection measures to reduce the potential loss of life and property in accordance with state and local codes and ordinances.
- 8.C.6. The County shall encourage fire protection agencies to continue education programs in schools, service clubs, organized groups, industry, utility companies, government agencies, press, radio, and television in order to increase public awareness of fire hazards within the County.
- 8.C.7. The County shall work with local fire protection agencies, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and the U.S. Forest Service to promote the maintenance of existing fuel breaks and emergency access routes for effective fire suppression.
- 8.C.8. The County shall encourage and promote installation and maintenance of smoke detectors in existing residences and commercial facilities that were constructed prior to the requirement for their installation.
- 8.C.9. The County shall work with local fire agencies to develop high-visibility fire prevention programs, including those offering voluntary home inspections and promoting awareness of home fire prevention measures.
- 8.C.10. The County shall continue to implement state fire safety standards through enforcement of the applicable standards contained in the Placer County Land Development Manual.
- 8.C.11. The County shall continue to work cooperatively with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and local fire protection agencies in managing wildland fire hazards.
- 8.C.12. The County shall support annexations and consolidations of fire districts and services to improve service delivery to the public.

[See also policies/programs under Goal 4.1, Fire Protection Services.]

### **Implementation Programs**

- 8.6. The County shall periodically evaluate fire protection services in the County to determine if fire protection resources are being effectively and efficiently used.

Responsibility:	County Executive Office of Emergency Services
Time Frame:	Periodically
Funding:	General Fund

- 8.7. The County shall work with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, local fire protection agencies, and city fire departments to maximize the use of resources to develop functional and/or operational consolidations and standardization of services and to maximize the efficient use of fire protection resources.

Responsibility: County Executive  
Office of Emergency Services  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

[See also policies/programs under Goal 4.I., Fire Protection Services.]

## **AIRPORT HAZARDS**

**Goal 8.D:** To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, damage to property, and economic and social dislocations resulting from airport hazards.

### **Policies**

- 8.D.1. The County shall ensure that new development around airports does not create safety hazards such as lights from direct or reflective sources, smoke, electrical interference, hazardous chemicals, or fuel storage in violation of adopted safety standards.
- 8.D.2. The County shall limit land uses in airport safety zones to those uses listed in the applicable airport comprehensive land use plans (CLUPs) as compatible uses. Exceptions shall be made only as provided for in the CLUPs. Such uses shall also be regulated to ensure compatibility in terms of location, height, and noise.
- 8.D.3. The County shall ensure that development within the airport approach and departure zones complies with Part 77 of the Federal Aviation Administration Regulations (objects affecting navigable airspace).

### **Implementation Programs**

- 8.8. The County shall review all development projects within the overflight zones of Placer County airports for consistency with applicable airport comprehensive land use plans (CLUPs).

Responsibility: Planning Department  
Planning Commission  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: Permit fees

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

**Goal 8.E:** To ensure the maintenance of an Emergency Management Program to effectively prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of natural or technological disasters.

### **Policies**

- 8.E.1. The County shall continue to maintain, periodically update, and test the effectiveness of its Emergency Operations Plan.

- 8.E.2. The County shall continue to coordinate emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities with special districts, service agencies, voluntary organizations, cities within the County, surrounding cities and counties, and state and federal agencies.
- 8.E.3. The County shall continue to provide a high-visibility promotional program to inform the general public of emergency preparedness and disaster response procedures.
- 8.E.4. The County shall, through its Office of Emergency Services, maintain the capability to effectively respond to emergency incidents.
- 8.E.5. The County shall maintain an emergency operations center to coordinate emergency response, management, and recovery activities.
- 8.E.6. The County shall ensure that the siting of critical emergency response facilities such as hospitals, fire stations, sheriff's offices and substations, dispatch centers, emergency operations centers, and other emergency service facilities and utilities have minimal exposure to flooding, seismic and geological effects, fire, avalanche, and explosions.

### Implementation Programs

- 8.9. The County shall adopt and implement current emergency management principles and practices in all aspects of its emergency management program.

Responsibility: County Executive  
Office of Emergency Services  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

- 8.10. The County shall adopt regulations and standards for incident management, allocation of resources, and continuity of government.

Responsibility: County Executive  
Office of Emergency Services  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

- 8.11. The County shall develop and maintain agreements with other local, state, and federal agencies to ensure coordinated disaster response.

Responsibility: County Executive  
Office of Emergency Services  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

- 8.12. The County shall periodically conduct emergency exercises to evaluate the County's emergency planning, operations, and training.

Responsibility: County Executive  
Office of Emergency Services  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

## **PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FACILITIES**

**Goal 8.F:** To protect public health and safety through safe location of structures necessary for the protection of public safety and/or the provision of emergency services.

### **Policies**

- 8.F.1. The County shall not locate new County structures necessary for the protection of public safety and/or the provision of emergency services in areas subject to inundation, subsidence, slope failure, surface rupture, or ground failure in a seismic event. Exception to this policy may be granted if the only alternative location would be so distant as to jeopardize the safety of the community, given that adequate precautions are taken to protect the facility.
- 8.F.2. The County shall, within its authority, ensure that emergency dispatch centers, emergency operations centers, communications systems, vital utilities, and other essential public facilities necessary for the continuity of government be designed in a manner that will allow them to remain operational during and following an earthquake or other disaster.

### **Implementation Programs**

- 8.13. The County shall conduct an evaluation of County-owned safety and emergency management facilities and public utility systems for susceptibility to damage due to flood inundation or geological or seismic hazards, and shall analyze the extent of acceptable risk of the effects of such flooding or groundshaking.

Responsibility:	Department of Public Works Office of Emergency Services Building Department
Time Frame:	FY 95-96
Funding:	General Fund

## **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS**

**Goal 8.G:** To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, serious illness, damage to property, and economic and social dislocations resulting from the use, transport, treatment, and disposal of hazardous materials and hazardous materials wastes.

### **Policies**

- 8.G.1. The County shall ensure that the use and disposal of hazardous materials in the County complies with local, state, and federal safety standards.
- 8.G.2. The County shall discourage the development of residences or schools near known hazardous waste disposal or handling facilities.
- 8.G.3. The County shall review all proposed development projects that manufacture, use, or transport hazardous materials for compliance with the County's Hazardous Waste Management Plan (CHWMP).

- 8.G.4. The County shall ensure that the mining and processing of toxic metals in the County is conducted in compliance with applicable environmental protection standards and minimizes impacts on adjacent lands and the surrounding natural environment.
- 8.G.5. The County shall strictly regulate the storage of hazardous materials and wastes.
- 8.G.6. The County shall require secondary containment and periodic examination for all storage of toxic materials.
- 8.G.7. The County shall ensure that industrial facilities are constructed and operated in accordance with current safety and environmental protection standards.
- 8.G.8. The County shall require that new industries that store and process hazardous materials provide a buffer zone between the installation and the property boundaries sufficient to protect public safety. The adequacy of the buffer zone shall be determined by the County.
- 8.G.9. The County shall require that applications for discretionary development projects that will generate hazardous wastes or utilize hazardous materials include detailed information on hazardous waste reduction, recycling, and storage.
- 8.G.10. The County shall require that any business that handles a hazardous material prepare a plan for emergency response to a release or threatened release of a hazardous material.
- 8.G.11. The County shall encourage the State Department of Health Services and the California Highway Patrol to review permits for radioactive materials on a regular basis and to promulgate and enforce public safety standards for the use of these materials, including the placarding of transport vehicles.
- 8.G.12. The County shall identify sites that are in appropriate for hazardous material storage, maintenance, use, and disposal facilities due to potential impacts on adjacent land uses and the surrounding natural environment.
- 8.G.13. The County shall work with local fire protection and other agencies to ensure an adequate Countywide response capability to hazardous materials emergencies.

### Implementation Programs

- 8.14. The County shall maintain and implement a County Hazardous Waste Management Plan (CHWMP). The plan shall address the following: hazardous waste generators; emergency response programs; transportation, storage, collection, treatment, and disposal of hazardous wastes generated within Placer County; the siting of hazardous waste facilities; and enforcement activities. Any proposed hazardous waste facility or expansion of an existing hazardous waste facility shall be consistent with the CHWMP.

Responsibility:	Department of Public Works Health Department Planning Department
Time Frame:	Ongoing
Funding:	Tipping fees General Fund



- 8.15. The County shall prepare and maintain a Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan.

Responsibility: Health Department  
County Executive  
Office of Emergency Services  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

- 8.16. The County shall enter into agreements with other agencies for mutual aid during hazardous materials emergencies.

Responsibility: County Executive  
Office of Emergency Services  
Time Frame: Ongoing  
Funding: General Fund

## **AVALANCHE HAZARDS**

**Goal 8.H:** To minimize the risk of loss of life, injury, and damage to property due to avalanche.

### **Policies**

- 8.H.1. The County shall maintain maps of potential avalanche hazard areas.
- 8.H.2. The County shall require new development in areas of avalanche hazard to be sited, designed, and constructed to minimize avalanche hazards.

### **Implementation Programs**

- 8.17. The County shall amend local ordinances as necessary to reflect updated avalanche hazard information.

Responsibility: Planning Department  
Time Frame: FY 94-95  
Funding: General Fund

## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

**Goal 8.I:** To provide municipal-type environmental health services to the unincorporated urban development areas in Western Placer County.

### **Policies**

- 8.I.1. Within overall County budgetary constraints, the County shall strive to provide one environmental health specialist per every 9,000 persons in the Western Placer County.
- 8.I.2. The County shall endeavor to identify and control important diseases transmitted by environmental factors in the Western Placer County.

**Implementation Programs**

- 8.18. The County shall pursue means such as a County service area or assessment district to provide mosquito abatement activities to prevent the spread of disease in the Western Placer County.

Responsibility: Environmental Health Division  
Time Frame: FY 94-95  
Funding: General Fund

- 8.19. The County shall identify and seek to provide a suitable location for a branch office of the Environmental Health Division in the western County.

Responsibility: Environmental Health Division  
Time Frame: FY 94-95  
Funding: General Fund